

Joy Ashcraft, LMSW

Director, Maryland's Commitment to Veterans (MCV)



Joy Ashcraft joined MCV in March 2020. She has spent the past 20 years working alongside and in support of the military and veteran-connected community. She has the honor of leading the MCV and Maryland Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans and their Families teams. Joy earned a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Southern California where she specialized in Community Organization, Planning and Administration and minored in Military Social Work. She also holds a Master of Education degree in Guidance and Counseling from Bowie State University. Joy comes from a family with a long tradition of military service and currently serves as the SI Administrative Officer and Behavioral Health Practitioner in the 10th Medical Regiment of the Maryland Defense Force. She is passionate about supporting this community and truly enjoys building community capacity.

Dina Karpf, BSW

Strategic Partnership & Eastern Regional Resource Coordinator



Dina Karpf joined MCV in May 2014. She has spent the past 9 years dedicated to working tirelessly for Service Members, Veterans and their Families (SMVF). She participates in local Behavioral Health Management Boards, Suicide Prevention Organizations, as well as being on the Route 50 Veteran Stand Downs committee. Dina earned a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Salisbury University. Above all else, Dina has a passion for caring for veterans on the Eastern Shore & beyond.

Xiaolin Pelton, MHA, RN

Hixson Fund Program Administrator



Xiaolin Pelton has been the Hixson Fund Program Administrator since 2022. She is responsible for the overall management and implementation of the Sheila E. Hixson Behavioral Health Services Matching Grant Program for Service Members and Veterans. Xiaolin previously worked as a Nursing Supervisor RN in charge of Cardiology, before becoming the first professional medical interpreter at Johns Hopkins. Her additional BHA experience includes her time as Regional Clinical Services Manager for the Office of Treatment Services. Xiaolin holds a bachelor's degree in nursing, as well as a master's in health administration.

Rick Reed, MPA

Coordination and Utilization Supervisor



Rick Reed has been with the MCV organization since 2014. He is a disabled combat veteran who served eight years in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. His overseas tours include KFOR Operations in Kosovo 1999, the initial 2001 push in Afghanistan during the OEF campaign, the initial 2003 push during the OIF campaign, and several humanitarian missions in between. Rick holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in Accounting, Finance, and Marketing, as well as a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in Statistics. Rick says, "his current position allows him to continue to express his passion to serve his country by assisting Maryland veterans alongside transitioning service members and their families with behavioral health matters and additional supportive services."

Hannah Rodriguez, BS

SMVF Suicide Prevention Administrator



Hannah Rodriguez has been serving as the Behavioral Health Administration's Service Member, Veterans and Families (SMVF) Suicide Prevention Administrator since 2021 as a part of Maryland's Commitment to Veterans. She leads the Lethal Means Safety, and Safety Planning workgroup, as part of the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide in the SMVF population. Hannah is a U.S. Army veteran and holds bachelor's degrees from the University of New Haven in Arson Investigation and Fire Administration. Prior to working at the Maryland Department of Health she served in emergency medicine for 8 years before transitioning to the education of medical service providers to encourage best practices and address disparities in healthcare.

Justin Willis, MPP

Communications & Central Regional Resource Coordinator



Justin Willis joined the MCV team in March of 2023. Justin served eight years of active duty in the U.S. Army, participating in both combat and humanitarian deployments. Following his military commitment, he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Political Science, at UMBC, while simultaneously completing coursework for a master's in public policy. Serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan, Justin is an active lifetime member of the VFW and is always looking for ways to connect with fellow veterans. He has worked with veteran-centered, non-profit groups and proud veterans throughout Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, DC, Florida, and The Bahamas.